

## **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### **Listing of claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A formulation effective in reducing the pH in a menstruating vagina or in a tampon inserted therein to below pH 5.5 comprising:
  - (a) ~~3-~~100% 30-100% by weight of glycolide;
  - (b) optionally, 97-15% by weight of a solid organic acid; and
  - (c) optionally, 5-30% of a wetting agent.
2. (Original) The formulation according to claim 1 further comprising lactide.
3. (Original) The formulation according to claim 2 comprising 3-97% by weight of said lactide.
4. (Original) The formulation according to claim 1 comprising 30-80% by weight of said glycolide.
5. (Original) The formulation according to claim 1 comprising optionally 30-15% by weight of said solid organic acid.

6. (Original) The formulation according to claim 1 wherein said solid organic acid is selected from the group consisting of citric, malic, maleic, fumaric, succinic, tartaric, glycolic and oxalic acids.

7. (Original) The formulation according to claim 5 wherein said solid organic acid is citric acid.

8. (Original) The formulation according to claim 1 comprising optionally 5-10% by weight of said wetting agent.

9. (Original) The formulation according to claim 1 wherein said wetting agent is selected from the group consisting of glycerol, polyethylene glycol (PEG), polypropylene glycol (PPG), Tween 80™, Poloxamer™ (Pluronic) and surfactants with an HLB ranging from 10 to 18.

10. (Original) The formulation according to claim 8 wherein said wetting agent is glycerol.

11. (Currently amended) A formulation effective in reducing the pH in a menstruating vagina or in a tampon inserted therein to below pH 5.5 comprising:

- (a) 3-100% 30-100% by weight of glycolide;
- (b) optionally, 3-97% by weight of lactide;
- (c) optionally, 97-15% by weight of a solid organic acid; and
- (d) optionally, 5-30% of a wetting agent.

12. (Original) A catamenial tampon for insertion in a human vagina comprising the formulation according to claim 1.

13. (Original) A catamenial tampon for insertion in a human vagina comprising the formulation according to claim 2.

14. (Original) A catamenial tampon for insertion in a human vagina comprising the formulation according to claim 6.

15. (Original) A catamenial tampon for insertion in a human vagina comprising the formulation according to claim 9.

16. (Original) A catamenial tampon for insertion in a human vagina comprising the formulation according to claim 11.

17. (Currently amended) A formulation effective in reducing the pH in a menstruating vagina or in a tampon inserted therein to below pH 5.5, consisting of:

- (a) ~~3-100%~~ 30-100% by weight of glycolide;
- (b) optionally, 3-97% by weight of lactide;
- (c) optionally, 97-15% by weight of a solid organic acid; and
- (d) optionally, 5-30% of a wetting agent.

18. (Previously Presented) The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the glycolide is present in amount from 30-90% by weight.

19. (Previously Presented) The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the glycolide is present in amount from 30-80% by weight.

20. (Previously Presented) The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the glycolide is present in amount from 50-90% by weight.

21. (Previously Presented) The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the glycolide is present in amount from 50-80% by weight.

22. (New) The catamenial tampon of claim 12, wherein the formulation is deposited on a strip.

23. (New) The catamenial tampon of claim 13, wherein the formulation is deposited on a strip.

24. (New) The catamenial tampon of claim 14, wherein the formulation is deposited on a strip.

25. (New) The catamenial tampon of claim 15, wherein the formulation is deposited on a strip.

26. (New) The catamenial tampon of claim 16, wherein the formulation is deposited on a strip.

27. (New) A method for reducing the pH in a menstruating vagina to below pH 5.5, comprising inserting into the vagina, a catamenial tampon comprising the formulation of claim 1.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein after inserting, pH in the menstruating vagina is reduced to below pH 5.5.